

**Cherokee Land Lottery  
Oct. 1832 – Apr. 1833**

**In 1803, Georgia established a lottery as the fairest means of distributing land to common farmers. After gold was discovered in 1828 near Dahlonega, the state ignored federal treaties and asserted its claims on the Cherokee territory (including Cobb County). In 1832, it began disbursing these lands in 40-acre gold lots and 160-acre farm lots. Names of eligible white citizens were drawn from one wheel and matched with lot numbers drawn from another. Some of the Cherokees protested and refused to abandon their properties, so lands were often passed to whites with Indians still present.**

### Sources – Cherokee Land Lottery

Bartley, Numan V. *The Creation of Modern Georgia*. Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1983.

Cadle, Farris W. *Georgia Land Surveying History and Law*. Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1991.

Gigantino, Jim. "Land Lottery System" *The New Georgia Encyclopedia*. February 17, 2006. <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-3299&hl=y> (Accessed March 20, 2007).

Roth, Darlene R., Ph.D. *Architecture, Archaeology and Landscapes: Resources for Historic Preservation in Unincorporated Cobb County, Georgia*. Cobb County, GA: Cobb County Historic Preservation Commission, 1988.

Temple, Sarah Blackwell Gober. *The First Hundred Years: A Short History of Cobb County, in Georgia*. Atlanta: Walter W. Brown Publishing Company, 1935; reprint, Atlanta, GA: Cherokee Publishing Company, 1980.

Cherokee Land Lottery  
Oct. 1832 – Apr. 1833<sup>1</sup>

In 1803,<sup>2</sup> Georgia established a lottery as the fairest means of distributing land to common farmers.<sup>3</sup> After gold was discovered in 1828 near Dahlonega<sup>4</sup>, the state ignored federal treaties<sup>5</sup> and asserted its claims on the Cherokee territory (including Cobb County)<sup>6</sup>. In 1832, it began disbursing these lands in 40-acre gold lots and 160-acre farm lots.<sup>7</sup> Names of “eligible white citizens”<sup>8</sup> were drawn from one wheel and matched with lot numbers drawn from another.<sup>9</sup> Some of the Cherokees protested<sup>10</sup> and refused to abandon their properties, so lands were often “passed to whites with Indians still” present.<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Cadle, 278; Temple, 33-34

<sup>2</sup> Cadle, 173.

<sup>3</sup> Bartley, 12; Gigantino.

<sup>4</sup> Roth, 9.

<sup>5</sup> Temple, 30,32.

<sup>6</sup> Gigantino; Roth, 9; Temple, 32.

<sup>7</sup> Cadle, 277-8; Roth, 9; Temple, 32.

<sup>8</sup> Cadle, 269, 274; Roth, 9. (The actual phrase as noted above came from Roth.)

<sup>9</sup> Cadle, 177; Temple, 33.

<sup>10</sup> Cadle, 276-7; Temple, 33.

<sup>11</sup> Roth, 9.